

Amendments to the Specification

Please insert new page 1217 (enclosed with this letter on a separate sheet) at the end of the specification.

Remarks

The May 29, 2002 Notice of Incomplete Reply states that Applicants' February 13, 2002 Amendment A constitutes an incomplete reply to the January 29, 2002 Notice to File Missing Parts because the Amendment A does not include an abstract "on a separate sheet." Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this finding. Specifically, Applicants submit that their February 13, 2002 Amendment A is a complete reply because it amends the specification to include an abstract in accordance with MPEP §714. See MPEP §714 ("Manner of Making Amendments"). Amendment A, after all, amends the specification to insert an abstract on a new, separate page at the end of the application, and includes the abstract text "in clean form, that is, without any markings . . . " and as "[a] separate marked up version . . . "

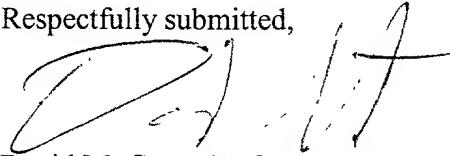
To ensure that Applicants have a complete reply, Applicants have enclosed an abstract "on a separate sheet." Please insert the text of this separate sheet on a new page (*i.e.*, new page 1217) at the end of the application. The language of this abstract is the same language as in the abstract on the cover sheet of the published grandparent PCT. It also is supported by Applicants' specification at, for example, page 4, lines 14-17.

Applicants also have enclosed a check for a 3-month extension for responding to the January 29, 2002 Notice to File Missing Parts. Applicants, however, request a refund of this extension fee if the Commissioner finds in favor of Applicants as to the above request for reconsideration.

Applicants do not believe that they owe any additional fee in connection with this filing. If, however, they do owe a fee, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fee to Deposit Account No. 08-0750. In addition, if there is ever a deficiency or an overpayment under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 or 1.17 in connection with this patent application, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such deficiency or overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-0750.

The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned if any questions arise that can be dealt with over the phone to expedite examination of this application.

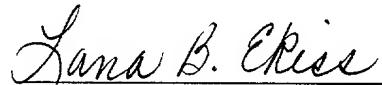
Respectfully submitted,



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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I certify that this is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: **Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231** on **June 7, 2002**.



DMG/LBE  
encl.